

August 9, 2021

The highly-contagious Delta variant is present in Massachusetts and is driving Covid numbers up across the country and in Scituate, which had 18 cases over the past week, up from nine the week before.

The Delta variant mainly affects those who are not vaccinated. There have been some break-thru cases with vaccinated folks but those cases have been mild and rarely require hospitalization.

Town Administrator Jim Boudreau said the CDC reports 99 percent of recent deaths were unvaccinated people and 97 percent of recent hospitalizations.

At this point, there is no mask mandate in Scituate. The Superintendent of Schools will provide a school update in the weeks ahead.

The state recommends that even those who are vaccinated wear a mask when indoors in a public place if someone in their household is at high risk. Also, those who live in high-transmission areas should mask up when inside a public place.

New water main service connections to Utility Road homes are wrapping up. Water main installation is ongoing on Old Oaken Bucket Road. Next up is Border Street.

Water usage is averaging 1.455 million gallons a day down slightly from the week before. The reservoir is 6.75 inches over due to all the rain. However, with the warmer weather returning, manganese levels will go up so residents may see some discoloration.

Despite a full reservoir and all the rain, phase one of water restrictions are still in place. Visit: [Scituatema.gov](http://Scituatema.gov) for more details.

Residents may notice large equipment at the Water Treatment Plant near the Rotary. Pilot studies for a new water treatment plant are underway. There will be tests to determine the best treatment for Scituate water. When finished, they will be back in the winter to test the cold water.

The Country Way sidewalk is wrapping up apart from National Grid moving some poles. The Stockbridge Road sidewalk (from the train station out) is being designed.

Work on resurfacing First Parish Road by the new Senior Center and by the town common is continuing. Sidewalks will be installed from Country Way up First Parish past the Senior Center. A new pedestrian crossing will be installed near Central Park. There will be plenty of sight lines to ensure safety.

Once the base coat is down on First Parish, traffic enforcement will be stepped up including running radar.

Please note Route 228 in Hingham is undergoing repairs. Be prepared for delays.

The new Humarock Fire Station is under construction and will be completed this fall.

Heavy work on the popular PJ Steverman inline skating rink at the high school be completed by early September. The old rink is being demolished and will be rebuilt. The project is being paid for with Community Preservation Act funds.

The Widows Walk \$2-1/2 million clubhouse project will wrap up this fall. The project is on time and on budget and includes a paved parking lot. The new, expanded facility will include a restaurant.

Heritage Days was packed from all accounts. Thanks to everyone who helped make it a success.